

Application No. 10/663555
Amendment dated January 17, 2006
Reply to Office Action of October 17, 2005

Docket No.: 023134.0107PTUS
(Formerly 1718-0004)

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A method of determining concentration of LDL cholesterol in a whole blood sample using a dry phase test strip, wherein said dry phase test strip comprises two stacks, each having one or more layers, said method comprising:

(a) contacting the whole blood sample with a blood separation layer of the test strip and separating the blood cells from the sample, thereby producing plasma;

(b) contacting each of said stacks with said plasma ~~with one or more test layers~~ to produce color in ~~at least one~~ each of said ~~stacks~~ one or more test layers;

(c) measuring the color produced in each of said stacks ~~process (b)~~; and

(d) determining the concentration of LDL cholesterol in said whole blood sample by subtracting the results from one of said stacks from the results of the other of said stacks ~~without using a Friedenwald calculation~~.

2. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein processes (a) - (c) are conducted at room temperature.

3. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said measuring is initiated by an end-point algorithm.

Claims 4 - 8 (Canceled)

9. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~[[8]]~~ 1 wherein one of said stacks measures total cholesterol and the other of said stacks measures non-LDL cholesterol.

10. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein said contacting comprises contacting said plasma with a test layer including a surfactant that acts on non-LDLs.

11. (Previously presented) The method of claim 10 wherein said contacting comprises contacting said plasma with a test layer including emulgen B66.

12. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein said measuring includes measuring a pseudo end-point.